

# The Brethren Evangelist.

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## The First Missionary.

She left her pitcher at the well  
And to her home returned,  
The welcome news of life to tell  
That in her full heart burned.  
Hast thou, like her of Sychar,  
Drunk from the blest well. Then go,  
Let others know the life of joy  
That from the fountain flows.—Ex.

## HUDSON, IOWA.

On the 12th, inst., by request of Eld. John Nicholson, I accompanied him to Edgewood, Iowa, where Eld. Nicholson preached at 7 o'clock same evening. At this place we met a number of brethren and sisters who had been expelled and disowned by the German Baptists about six or seven years ago. We remained there until the 15th when we were conveyed about twelve miles north-east to the vicinity of Elkhart. Here we met a larger number who had shared the same fate as those just mentioned, at the same time and by the same elders, who, no doubt, felt themselves under obligations to A. M., to apply this fatal remedy.

We did not get the entire number that were expelled, at that time, as some have moved away, and others have gone to their long resting place. However we found about twenty-five precious souls there yet who pleaded for admission into the Brethren church. They were received, and I have not the language to express the love and joy that was manifested to us and toward each other in seeing that the kingdom was again open for them. Now we have this to say for their encouragement, live out the discipline that we introduced to you, the Gospel alone, and when you come to ask for admission into the Kingdom of heaven, you will not find a committee of A. M. there in charge of the gate to ask whether you have lived the decisions or not; but the keys of the kingdom will be handled by a different party.

Eld. Nicholson preached seven gospel sermons with great power to the people of Clayton county, and made many warm friends while there. We left for home on the 17th, Eld. Nicholson going direct to Aurelia, where he is now holding a series of revival meetings.

SAMUEL CAIN.

## DOWAGIAC, MICH.

Feb. 23.—It is with pleasure that I write to give an account of the Dedication of our new church house. As you have already learned through Bro. Mallott, we had made arrangements with him to preach the dedicatory sermon, when he was at Milford, and he went back to Ohio and got into a revival meeting and could not, as he thought, very well come. But during this time I saw Bro C. A. Price, of Bary Co., and he agreed to come and be with us at the meeting, and he preached the dedicatory sermon to a well-filled house of attentive and interested listeners. He filled the place well and done the occasion justice, and he followed that meeting

with a protracted effort. Before he had preached very long, sin and satan began to gradually give way to his mild but powerful preaching in demonstration of the spirit of Christ. For two weeks he stormed the fort, and then we sent and got Bro Rittgers, of Portage, to help, and, I just tell you brethren and sisters, that the big boom that struck Portage, hit our place too and the result is that nineteen came out on the Lord's side, already, with many more near the Kingdom. The meeting closed Sunday Feb. 21, with unabated interest. If the meetings had continued others, no doubt, would have come out on the Lord's side.

I can tell you that Bro. Price and Bro. Rittger's are the right men in the right place. They are truly a power in the hands of God for good. We were assisted by Bro. Robison, of the Baptist Church, who also united with us during the meetings. Much credit is due to the good people of other denominations who came and labored so nobly with us for the salvation of souls. Brethren, pen or tongue cannot describe the wonderful meeting we had. They seemed to listen to the word preached with almost breathless silence. In short, you nor no one else ever saw a better interest taken in meetings no where else this side the Savior's time.

We feel to praise God from whom all blessings flow, for His blessings toward us. Brethren pray much for us. We shall patiently wait the fulfillment of Bro. Mallett's promise, to come and hold for us a protracted meeting.

WALTER CLARK.

## LAWRENCE, KANS.

Feb. 25.—Left my home in Lawrence, Jan. 6th, went south west to Washington Creek, my former home, and being Elder of the G. B. church at that place, till nearly two years ago, I claimed my freedom from tradition and obtained it only by forcing myself away, and taking my stand upon the Gospel alone; for which wife and I were waited upon and told that we would be dealt with, and from henceforth we could not be fellowshiped.

Upon our arrival there the terrible blizzard and noted storm struck us, and Bro. Hixson and wife and my wife and I—well we just laid in at Bro. Tuttle's till the storm abated. Thanks to the kind family with whom we stayed. May the good Lord reward and bless them. But now the storm is over. Bro. Hixson gone home, we cast about us for something to do and concluding it not a very healthy locality for public meetings, so we betook ourselves to visiting among the different families where, in our judgment, there were hopes of good being done, and what good was done the sequel will show and prove out by and by. Spent ten days and nights with this people, sometimes talked till 10

at night; for be it remembered that some of these people are relatives of mine and some are on the very verge of infidelity and they say they have been driven from the church of their choice by misrule, and now they appropriate this progressive movement in the church, but have gone so far into unbelief that a rescue is next to impossible. O what mischief is done by man-rule! Why not take God's rule? We succeeded in getting one member here, and others are counting the cost.

From here we went south into Franklin Co., to S. G. Longaker's, a brother with a large heart. Here we made our headquarters for two weeks holding meetings at nights and visiting in day time, and felt that some good was done. One went with us; others said they had no fault to find, and they would see me again. From here we turned our face eastward, got off the train at Edgerton where there is a few scattered members. Held some meetings south of town in a school house. Here were two more from the German Baptists. From here we went to Johnson Co., in the vicinity of Olatha, into the church, or rather the fragments of a church recently torn to pieces by Eld. Isaac Studebaker of Annual Meeting notoriety. He is undoubtedly the most loyal man they have in Kansas; and why not? If we had a law that costs as much as their law, I think I should insist very strongly on its observance. His own members told me that he had ruined the church in that place, and just the Saturday before, they signed fifteen letters of membership, all going to leave for other parts of the country. Some said they would go progressive, a few will go Old Order; but here we count on some very good members. So we think our little organization at Lawrence can count on about 40 members before long. Several said they would see me at Lawrence soon; but exactly what they will do the Lord only knows.

JOSEPH MICHAEL.

## BUCKEYE CITY, OHIO.

Feb. 19.—We have not reported any thing from here for some time. Bro. Josiah Keim came at our request on Jan. 27th, and preached for us until Feb. 17th, and the result was six additions. We labored under very unfavorable circumstances. Soon after the meetings commenced sickness set in and kept a good many away, and the Methodists commenced a meeting about the same time and the roads became very muddy. But in spite of all this, Bro. Keim preached the word with power to very attentive congregations, and as a result we enjoyed a glorious revival. As usual we had to quit too soon. We hope the time will come that our revivalists will be able to finish the work before leaving. The prospects were very good for a number more to come out on the Lord's side if

we could have continued a week longer. Brethren Churches that are in need of a revivalist can secure no more able expounder of the Gospel than Bro. Keim, and the longer he preaches the better the people liked him.

ISAAC ROSS.

## DOWAGIAC, MICH.

Feb. 16.—By request of the elder of the Berrien Church, I commenced meeting with the purpose to continue only for a short time. Continued for one week and four precious souls were added to the fold, two from the Disciple church and two from the world. The meeting was held in a school house. The roads soon began to break up but the work still went on.

I laid down the platform of the Brethren Church and fought the battle on this line to the last, and I feel that the Lord lost nothing by the effort. The people were anxious to learn the truth, for some came with paper and pencils and marked the verse and chapter to see whether those things were true or not.

Brethren let us preach the Gospel in its purity, that is what sinners want and is just what satan don't want.

May we go on in one solid body and we will surely anchor.

Bro. McFaden, though a stranger to you, you have my prayers and I will hold your hands up high, for daring to preach the truth fearless of men. The Lord bless you.

J. C. CRIPE.

Dowagiac, Mich., Feb. 16, 1886.

## ANKENYTOWN, O.

Feb. 24th. I will write a few lines to inform you that we had a good time in Hancock and Logan counties. I never enjoyed myself better, the friends and brethren were so kind to us and manifested so much friendship and brotherly love. We came away refreshed and built up. Bro. A. M. Ridenour brought such refreshing news from West Virginia.

I never saw any one so overjoyed as was sister March when I opened the door. We had a glorious time, good meetings, and excellent interest. We made the acquaintance of a good, influential and intelligent, brother living about four miles from brother March's. Bro. March had heard from him but was not sure whether he was a member or not. We all went over and were received kindly and richly entertained, spiritually, and temporally. I. Rosenberg tried to shame him for joining the Brethren church; he said "now you know better I know you do—join a church that has no church government, I saw one of their sister's that had her hair cut off short." Bro Miller gave him a dose of his own medicine. He said I see some of your brethren have their hair so long that they come down on their shoulders, while the Scriptures teach that it is a shame for a man to have long hair.

Our association with brother

Ridenour was very pleasant, and we hope to have refreshing seasons together again.

ISAAC LEEDY.

## DAYTON, OHIO.

The gospel services now in progress in the Brethren church are growing in interest daily. Brother E. S. Miller had charge of these meetings the first week. He did a noble work. This week brother James A. Ridenour, the noted evangelist, is conducting these services.

The interest is becoming more intense, the congregations are increasing in numbers; the spirit of God accompanying the word spoken is penetrating the hearts of the hearers, richly blessing those who are already in the kingdom, and creating a yearning desire in the hearts of others to come in.

Last Tuesday evening one precious soul (a young man) came out a witness to the truth, that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Others are almost persuaded.

While there is joy in the presence of the angels in heaven, and among Christians on earth when one sinner is converted to God, there are others upon earth who are not thus affected. May the Lord be merciful to that class. The cause is His; we are but humble instruments in his hands to accomplish his will. Pray for the prosperity of Zion in this place. Praise the Lord.

SAMUEL KIEHL.

## ALMENA, MICH.

Feb. 22.—Have been having a few meetings at the Brethren church here by brother Robert's, from the Baptist church, assisted by our home minister, Bro. J. Shank. Have not been able to attend but one meeting, but hear that they are having a good attendance and a good interest.

A. DELHAVEN.

## BERLIN, PA.

Feb. 24th.—We held our annual council on the 22nd, inst. Every thing passed off pleasantly. Among the business transacted was an election for speaker which lot fell on Bro. Will Stahl, who I understand, intends going to Ashland College to prepare himself for the work to which he was called. May he become a bright and shining ornament to the church is the prayer of the Berlin District. The brethren present by a unanimous vote called our former pastor, Bro. John H. Knepper to continue to serve us during the coming year at a compensation satisfactory to both pastor and people.

Bro. Joseph L. Kimmel of the Stony Creek Church was present and assisted us in our work.

WM. H. MENGES.

Clerk.

In Greenland the United Brethren Mission reports good progress. Two of the brethren, however, have been lost at sea and two-widows frozen to death.